

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0003] with the following amended paragraph:

[0003] Boxing matches present an opportunity for the display of sponsor and/or participant trademarks. Thus, trademarks may be displayed on the pugilist's clothing and equipment, for example. Unfortunately, other opportunities for visual sponsorship acknowledgement in the vicinity of the ring are rather limited. For example, trademarks cannot be displayed in such a manner as to block the view of the spectators who have paid to see the contest, or the view of the television or video cameras. Moreover, the trademark displays can be semi-permanent in character, making it difficult to remove or change the trademark displays for one fight, but not for other fights at the same event. Therefore, there exists a need for a way to expand the opportunities for displaying trademarks, or other visual indicia, of participants and sponsors at a boxing match, and to improve the flexibility in the different types and manner of trademark displays.

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following amended paragraph:

[0009] Preferably, a trademark, or other visual indicia, is displayed on an obverse side of the mat. The trademark can be displayed on the apron area. A printable area can be provided on the mat for recording pugilist data, for example on a reverse side of the mat or in the central area on the obverse side. A cutout for the post can be formed in a corner of the mat. First and second edges of the mat preferably extend from the cutout substantially at a right angle for alignment with respective edges of the floor. A preferably arcuate edge of the mat can extend between ends of the first and second edges of the mat opposite the cutout. The mat preferably comprises an upper absorbent layer and a lower absorbent layer on either side of an impervious layer.